1   **Claims 1 – 125: canceled**

2   **Claims 126-186: canceled**

3   **Please cancel claims 187-190**


1   **191. (currently amended)** The system set forth in claim ~~187~~211 wherein:

2        there is a plurality of types of model entities; and

3        a representation of a model entity specifies the represented model entity's type.


1   **192. (currently amended)** The system set forth in claim ~~187~~211 wherein:

2        the model further includes representations of further information that are related

3   to certain of the representations of the model entities; and

4        ~~the processor responds to further inputs of the first inputs by outputting the~~the

5   graphical user interface further permits the user to access the representations of the

6   related further information ~~and receives further inputs of the second inputs to which the~~

7   ~~processor responds by accessing the related further information.~~


1   **193. (currently amended)** The system set forth in claim 192 wherein:

2        ~~the interface further receives still further inputs of the second inputs to which the~~

3   ~~processor responds by modifying~~the graphical user interface further permits the user to

4   modify the further information.


1   **194. (previously presented)** The system set forth in claim 193 wherein:

2        the further information is a document that is accessible to the system.


1   **195. (previously presented)** The system set forth in claim 193 wherein:

2        the further information is a message sent to the person by another person.


1   **196. (previously presented)** The system set forth in claim 194 wherein:

2        the further information is a discussion concerning the model entity among the

3   persons.

1   **197.   (currently amended)** A data storage device, the data storage device being
2   characterized in that:

3         the data storage device contains a program which, when executed in a computer
4   system, implements the system set forth in claim ~~187~~211.


1   **198.   (currently amended).**   A method of supporting management of a ~~business~~
2   collaborative activity in a system which includes a processor, the processor having access
3   to a database containing a model of the ~~business~~collaborative activity, the model
4   including representations of model entities, a given representation of a model entity
5   being capable of simultaneously belonging to hierarchies including a hierarchy and
6   another hierarchy, and the representations of model entities providing access to
7   information relating to the ~~business~~collaborative activity, the processor providing an
8   interface for one or more users of the system who are not specialists in information
9   technology, and the method comprising the steps performed in the system of:

10        receiving a definition of a model entity belonging to ~~a~~ the model of the
11  collaborative activity ~~of the business~~ from a ~~person involved in the business~~user via the
12  interface and responding thereto by producing a representation of the model entity  in the
13  database; and

14        receiving a first indication of a first hierarchical relationship between the model
15  entity and another model entity belonging to the hierarchy from the user via the interface
16  and responding thereto by ~~using the interface to relate~~relating the model entity to the
17  other model entity in the hierarchy and

18        receiving a second indication of a second hierarchical relationship between the
19  model entity and a third model entity belonging to the other hierarchy from the user via
20  the interface and responding thereto by ~~using the interface to relate~~relating the model
21  entity to the third model entity in the other hierarchy.


1   **199.  (currently amended)** The method set forth in claim 198 further comprising the step
2   of:

3   receiving an indication from the ~~person~~ user via the interface that one or the other

4 of the hierarchical relationships is to be shown in the interface and responding thereto by

5 showing the indicated relationship in the interface.

1 **200. (previously presented)** The method set forth in claim 198 wherein:

2   the hierarchy and the other hierarchy are different types of hierarchical

3 relationships.

1 **201. (currently amended)** The method set forth in claim 200 wherein the method

2 further comprises the steps of:

3   receiving a third indication from the ~~person~~ user via the interface of the type of

4 hierarchical relationship to be used in displaying the model entity in the interface; and

5   responding thereto by displaying the model entity in the interface using the

6 indicated hierarchical relationship.

1 **202. (previously presented)** The method set forth in claim 199 wherein:

2   the indicated hierarchical relationship is shown in the interface by displaying

3 model entities as sorted by the relationship.

1 **203. (currently amended)** The method set forth in claim 198 wherein the representation

2 of the model entity includes a representation of information about the ~~business~~

3 collaborative activity and

4 the method further comprises the steps of:

5   receiving a third indication of the model entity from the person via the interface;

6   receiving a fourth indication of the information from the ~~person~~ user via the

7 interface; and

8   responding thereto by producing the representation of the information in the

9 representation of the model entity.

1 **204. (currently amended)** The method set forth in claim 203 further comprising the

2 steps of:

4

3      receiving a fifth indication from the ~~person~~<u>user</u> via the interface that the

4    information in the representation of the information in the representation of the model

5    entity is to be displayed; and

6      responding thereto by showing the indicated information in the interface.

1    **205. (currently amended)** The method set forth in claim 203 further comprising the step

2    of:

3      receiving a sixth information from the ~~person~~<u>user</u> via the interface that the

4    information in the representation of the information in the representation of the model

5    entity is to be modified; and

6      responding thereto by permitting the user to modify the information.

1    **206. (currently amended)** The method set forth in claim 203 further comprising the

2    steps of:

3    <u>      </u>receiving a sixth indication from the ~~person~~<u>user</u> via the interface that the model

4    entities are to be sorted by values of the information in the representation of the

5    information in the representation of the model entity; and

6    responding thereto by showing the sorted model entities in the interface.

1    **207. (currently amended)** The method set forth in claim 198 further comprising the

2    steps of:

3      receiving a third indication from the ~~person~~<u>user</u> via the interface of a model

4    entity;

5      receiving a fourth indication that further information is to be related to the

6    indicated model entity; and

7      responding thereto by relating a representation of the further information to the

8    representation of the indicated model entity.

1 **208. (currently amended)** The method set forth in claim 207 further comprising the
2 steps of:
3      receiving a fifth indication from the ~~person~~user via the interface that the further
4 information related to the model entity is to be displayed; and
5      responding thereto by showing the related further information in the interface.

1 **209.  (currently amended)** The method set forth in claim 208 further comprising the
2 steps of:
3      receiving a sixth indication from the ~~person~~user via the interface that the further
4 information related to the model entity is to be modified; and
5      responding thereto by modifying the related further information.

1 **210. (previously presented)**   A data storage device, the data storage device being
2 characterized in that:
3      the data storage device contains a program which, when executed in a computer
4 system, implements the method set forth in claim 198.

1 **211. (new)** A system for supporting management of a collaborative activity by persons
2 involved therein, the persons not being specialists in information technology and
3 the system comprising:
4      a representation of a model of the collaborative activity, the representation being
5 accessible to a processor and the model of the collaborative activity including model
6 entities, the model entities providing access to information concerning the collaborative
7 activity, being organized into a plurality of hierarchies having a plurality of types, and a
8 given model entity being capable of simultaneously belonging to a hierarchy having one
9 of the types and a hierarchy having another of the types; and
10      a graphical user interface for the system which the processor provides to the
11 persons,  the graphical user interface permitting a person of the persons to perform
12 operations on a model entity as limited by a type of access which the person has to the
13 model entity, the operations including controlling access to the model entity, creating,
14 modifying, and/or deleting the model entity, assigning the model entity to a location in a

15  hierarchy, accessing and/or modifying the information concerning the collaborative

16  activity via the model entity, viewing model entities as ordered by a hierarchy to which

17  the entities belong, and viewing model entities as ordered by a value in the information

18  concerning the collaborative activity to which the entities give access.